

Here's Something People Ought To Know About Doings Of Militaristic Interests

(Special Correspondence.)
Washington.—A state-wide, nation-wide campaign for compulsory military service is now under way, thanks to the machinations of the National Security League, one of the most powerful and richest of the propaganda organizations for militarism. Bills have been framed by the central headquarters and will be introduced this winter in every state in the union. At the same time, moves are under way to force the same kind of legislation thru congress.

This information comes from a "confidential" bulletin of the National Security League. Parts of this bulletin, which has fallen into the hands of your correspondent, are as follows:
"Several important recommendations on physical and military training in the schools of the United States, recommendation of the adoption of a system of universal military training under Federal control based upon a proper modification of the Swiss and Australian system, and for a committee to arrange with Senator Chamberlain for hearing on his universal military training bill in the early part of the next session of Congress, have been prepared for the consideration of the executive committee of the National Security League. It is pointed out in these recommendations that as legislation for physical and military training in the schools is purely a state matter, legislation to this end can be secured only thru state legislatures and therefore it is suggested that a committee be appointed to

frame a bill for such training which should be introduced in each of the forty-one legislatures which meet next January. Senator Chamberlain has been asked to advise the League as to his program for the next session; whether he intends to press his measure, and what, in his opinion, are its chances for consideration. It is also recommended that a committee be appointed to consider the advisability of introducing in Congress at the next session a bill providing for a referendum vote on the subject of universal

military training at the election which occurs two years hence for members of Congress; and also another committee to prepare a report on the defects in the National Defense Act and that every effort be made to secure the amendment of this measure at the next session of Congress."

Forewarned is fore-armed.
Let the people know what the militaristic interests are doing—and then let them do it, if they can!

This paper has been paid for, if not by you, then by some one who wants you to read it.
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WANTED! Stout Hearts To Face This New National Crisis!

BALLOT DAY is over—now back to the bullets again! That may well be the rallying cry of the master class in these days of darkness.

The masters of bread will have much need for bullets in the days that are coming, when the sleeping masses awaken from the hypnotic spell cast over them by the presidential campaign just closed.

An epoch making opportunity presented itself on Tuesday, November 7th, to the great mass of the people, to settle peacefully and quietly some of the great fundamental problems of the day.

The great mass of the people passed this opportunity by.

They voted for one or the other of the candidates put up by the enemies of the great mass of the people.

They voted against the peaceful settlement of society's great problems.

So the bullet law will continue to reign in the land for four years more. Revolting masses of humanity, here and there throughout the land, will rise, some this month, some next month, some next year, to be shot down in the great struggle for more bread, more comfort, more shelter, more happiness.

WILSON IN AGAIN.

WOODROW Wilson has been re-elected president.

He was re-elected by the votes of the masses. The "reactionary South" joined hands with the so-called "Progressive West."

During Wilson's first administration we had the bloody revolts in the coal fields of West Virginia and Colorado, in the hop fields of California, in the copper empire of Upper Michigan, in the Standard Oil City of Bayonne, N. J., on the iron range of Northern Minnesota.

Scores were murdered, men, women and children. Hundreds were beaten, wounded and starved. Suffering reigned; happiness almost died.

That was the starter of Wilson's reign in the White House. What will his second term bring forth? We predict more, much more of the same!

WE'RE NOT SORRY!

SOCIALISTS are not sorry over the election's results. Socialists have no time to be sorry. They have only time to plan for the future and struggle with new courage born of the hope eternal.

We hoped for two states, one U. S. senator, eight congressmen, one large city, many state legislators. We got one congressman. We captured the city—Minneapolis, Minn.

We elected more than a score of legislators in a dozen states. Many counties and smaller positions fell into our hands.

We hoped for two million votes. Indications are that we shall now have to be satisfied with one million or even less.

We hoped that the workers would show increased solidarity born of a growing intelligence. Instead they were divided more than ever along racial lines and swayed as never before by the politician's empty pre-election promises.

What we had hoped for would have proved a bulwark against the increasing persecution of the master class.

The hoped-for bulwark did not materialize. The masses voted for fighting persecution with bare fists—they voted for the bullets, for suffering, for death.

WAR CLOUDS GATHER.

SOCIALISM did not create or bring into being the war of the classes. Capitalism did that. The capitalist system lives on the struggle between the exploiters and the wage earners. Abolish exploitation and capitalism dies.

Exploitation and capitalism won on Tuesday, Nov. 7th, and as a result capitalism and exploitation are very much alive. The class war, with the re-election of President Wilson, will become more bitter than ever because:

FIRST:—Every railroad in the country, on the day after the election, rallied its forces to fight the Adamson eight hour law. The battle will be fought out in the courts and the courts are owned by the master class.

SECOND:—The American Federation of Labor, meeting at Baltimore, Md., in annual

convention, declared it would oppose all attempts to impose compulsory arbitration upon the workers of the land.

THIRD:—President Wilson, whom the officials of the American Federation of Labor tried to help re-elect, has announced himself in favor of compulsory arbitration and has promised our railroad monarchs he will help write compulsory arbitration into the law of the land.

FOURTH:—The officials of the four railroad brotherhoods, who also tried to help re-elect President Wilson, declare compulsory arbitration to be but a polite term for human slavery under the wages system.

FIFTH:—To every threat made by the big railroad corporations, the railroad workers

have made but one reply—the counter threat to strike. Everyone knows that a national railroad strike will be nothing short of civil war.

SIXTH:—Hunger! It is the greatest breeder of violence. Its strength is growing unchecked everywhere in the land. There are food riots in war stricken Europe. Yet the belligerent peoples of the lands across the sea pay less for food than the docile masses of America. And while the revolting sufferers of Europe live from hand to mouth, the docile sufferers of America are silent in the shadow of huge storage houses bulging with things to eat held by the food pirates plotting to extort increased profits from the masses. What solution does President Wilson offer? None, but the bullet solution. Wait and see!

SEVENTH:—By re-electing Wilson the masses, by referendum vote, declare themselves in favor of the \$662,476,512 bullet appropriations for 1917 made by the Wilson administration.

EIGHTH:—Don't go to sleep feeling that this vast sum will be used to shoot up the Mexicans, or shoot down the workers of some other foreign land in order that foreign markets may be found for the surplus, stolen products of robbed American labor.

NINTH:—Wilson acquiesced in the murder of workers in every strike that took place during his first administration. He has not changed. How much of that \$662,476,512 worth of powder and lead will be used against American workers by American soldiers during the next four years? Wait and see! You won't have to wait long!

TENTH:—By re-electing Wilson, the masses, by referendum vote, endorsed the diabolical schemes of the hideous National Security League, which is now planning to fasten its tentacles on all the public schools in the nation. It is planning to bring about in every other state, this winter, what has already been brought to pass in New York state—conscription for bullet duty of men, forced military education for future bullet duty of children.

ELEVENTH:—By re-electing Wilson, the masses, by referendum vote, endorsed "the draft". The President was given the power to "draft" men into the army, to make man-killers out of them against their own better wishes and desires.

Thus we might go on and on to show what has really taken place as a result of this election, what this result means to the masses of the people, every result being an argument to show that the masses again went wrong, that they voted against themselves. And Wall Street laughs!

WATCH HIM!

WATCH THE President! Watch his every move!

Watchfully wait and see if the President has changed from the time he sat silently by and allowed King Rockefeller to lead his army of assassins against the helpless women and babes of Ludlow, Colo.

"He gave us the eight hour law!" cry the

tells the farmer when the poverty-stricken, hungry masses cry for bread, and the storage houses bulge with the products of our fields. Incidentally he scolds the "middle-man," but the profit system goes merrily on with its work of robbing and plundering.

"Make more guns and bullets!" is the cry that comes from Washington as the pre-election shibboleth, "He kept us out of war," of the master White House politician, is laid on the shelf to gather dust and decay.

"More foreign markets! More! More!" the greedy cry of our profiteers, bringing loud applause from Washington, as the nation's pocket book is pinched to the last cent by rising prices, as the things we need to feed, clothe and shelter ourselves go across the seas.

Where Will President Wilson Stand When The Fighting Begins?

J. Pierpont Morgan, with the great financial interests he represents, is the driving force behind the effort to nullify the Adamson eight-hour law. He has trustified the anti-labor hate of the nation into the National Industrial Conference Board just organized in New York City. This board is backed by \$8,000,000,000 capital and includes in its membership 15,000 officials of corporations belonging to twelve of the largest national associations of industrial employers. The firms represented in this new labor crushing organization employ approximately 7,000,000 workers. Where will President Wilson stand when the fighting begins?

misled of labor.

The Colorado coal miners had an eight-hour law on the statute books of their state. They were on strike to enforce it. The President didn't take their side against Rockefeller.

But, don't you remember, Rockefeller personally endorsed President Wilson for re-election, and Rockefeller knows what he is doing.

Keep this in mind!

THREATS ARE WEAK.

THE PRESIDENT of one of the railroad brotherhoods says:

"Any railroad that attempts to cancel the present schedule of hours and pay, or refuses to put the eight-hour day into effect, will find itself with a strike on its hands, law or no law."

This sounds like an idle threat. Why threaten strike now with Wilson re-elected? Or do the railroad brotherhood heads already realize how little he gave us when, "He gave us the eight-hour law"? Do they already realize how little a help the President will be in helping them to enforce the Adamson law?

The master class, supported by its puppet politicians, is well nigh impregnable on the industrial battle field. It therefore laughs at strike threats.

A startling increase in the Socialist vote would have been a real threat; capable of chilling the marrow in the bones of the self-satisfied plutocracy.

NATIONAL CONTROL.

LIKEWISE the threat of national ownership of the railroads. Do the railroad workers expect any aid from the President? He didn't heed the plea of the 500,000 coal miners when they asked for the national ownership of the mines in the fight against the coal barons in Colorado and the copper barons in Michigan and Arizona.

We predict that the President will be as deaf to the national ownership plea of the railroad workers as he was to the national ownership plea of the mine workers. And then he was stone deaf. Remember that!

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS.

"PRODUCE MORE!" President Wilson

thought for themselves. They have boldly laid their epoch making thoughts before the people.

SUFFERED?

Of course they have suffered in a way. But the joy of being true to themselves—of being true to the best that was in them—far outweighed the suffering. They were hounded, traduced, insulted, ostracised, and maligned. But what of that?

Their lives were worth living because they helped the world forward. The lives of their maligners were not worth living, because they tried to make the world stand still.

YOU can comfortably conform to the prevailing views of things, and slide thru the world a failure. Or you can take your stand for progress, be the consequences what they may, and make your life a success.

Don't be a coward. Be an epoch maker.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

THE FORCE of events, from day to day, will probably do more than anything else to force the masses wide awake. Strikes, lock-

outs, conscription laws, compulsory arbitration laws, higher food costs, increasing unemployment, the presence of an unrelenting winter, silence by the mute politician in the White House, now that Election Day has passed; all these and more will contribute their share toward the awakening of the masses. Once awake, our work of education is again made easy.

We have Meyer London in congress. He will speak to the nation in thunder notes with our help. We must see that his utterances, in printed form, reach millions of men and women anxious to know the truth.

We have more than a score of lawmakers in a dozen state legislatures. We must support them with all the power we possess. County and municipal officials can help.

This national crisis is cause for a thousand mass meetings of protest and education the nation over. The Socialist Party should take the lead in holding these meetings.

The first regular monthly distribution of literature will take place Sunday, January 7. This distribution, and the regular distributions to follow, will be a great and growing factor in arousing and educating the masses. See that the territory in which you live is covered.

Join hands with other organizations of labor in building up the co-operative movement. As co-operatives grow in strength and power, the workingclass becomes more self-reliant, more unafraid to face the domineering overlords of capitalism.

All this we can do, and more. We can help build up the party press, add to the party membership, develop our organization in new and untried directions.

Ballot Day, Nov. 7, 1916, is over. Let us strive anew to be more than ever prepared for the next Ballot Day.

WANTED! Stout hearts to face this new national crisis!

OPEN THE WAY!

THEN, when the next Ballot Day is over, the master class will not dare go back to the bullets to crush the masses into greater subjection.

And then, and then only, the way to our ultimate goal, a new civilization, the Co-operative Commonwealth, will lie broad and unobstructed before us.

Now Is The Time!

There is no better time than now to get new readers for your party's paper.

Don't go to sleep for four years and then expect great things in the next presidential election in 1920.

You can't roll up a big Socialist vote at the last minute. You must keep everlastingly at it.

The American Socialist is going to contain some great reading matter this winter. Meyer London will be on the job again at Washington next month. Big things will come up during the months that follow. Beginning in January a host of Socialists will be on the job in many state legislatures. Another Socialist city administration will soon take up the reins of government, this time in Minneapolis, Minn.

Your paper will tell all about these big things from week to week. It is just the kind of reading matter you want to pass on to non-Socialists.

You are therefore asked to do just one small tap of work this week—get a 50 cent yearly subscriber. Nothing is easier.

Here is the blank.

MY TASK THIS WEEK!

The American Socialist, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

Enclosed please find fifty cents for which please send The American Socialist for one year to the following:

Name

St. or Route No.

Post Office

State

Yours for Socialism,

Sender's Name

Address

OUR RATES:—25 cents for six months; 50 cents a year; \$1 for four years; 25 cents for 40 weeks in clubs of four or more.

The Epoch Maker

By JOHN M. WORK.

ARE YOU one of those who ask, "What will people say?"

Yes?
Then you are an ignominious slave.
You are a coward.
You are a nonentity.
You are no good to yourself or anybody else.
You might as well be dead.

Suppose Jesus Christ had asked, "What will people say?"
Suppose Socrates had asked, "What will people say?"
Suppose Charles Darwin had asked, "What will people say?"
Suppose Susan B. Anthony had asked, "What will people say?"
Suppose any of the really great men and women of history had asked this question.
They would not have been great. They would not have helped to move the world forward. They would have been stationary.
The epoch makers of all ages have scorned this question. They have

thought for themselves. They have boldly laid their epoch making thoughts before the people.

SUFFERED?
Of course they have suffered in a way. But the joy of being true to themselves—of being true to the best that was in them—far outweighed the suffering. They were hounded, traduced, insulted, ostracised, and maligned. But what of that?
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YOU can comfortably conform to the prevailing views of things, and slide thru the world a failure. Or you can take your stand for progress, be the consequences what they may, and make your life a success.
Don't be a coward. Be an epoch maker.

Co., Myton, Utah, at once.

Wilson Is Going To Try To Smash The Socialist Party

By LUCIEN SAINT.
(Special Correspondence.)

Washington.—Well, it's four years more of Wilson. It's scheduled, according to the inside dope here, to be four years of half-baked radicalism with the unavowed but earnest purpose of smashing the Socialist party and building up a Liberal party which will perpetuate itself in office ad infinitum. This is a phenomenon of the greatest significance to labor—and the unexpected smallness of the Socialist vote is part of the story.

Wilson is not a labor President, never has been and never really will be. He may be a reformers' President, or a progressives' President, but not a labor President. While he is undoubtedly more intelligent about and sympathetic with labor than Hughes—around election time—he is not fundamentally socialistic. He may take steps toward government ownership, which steps will draw into his train many more radicals, but Wilson will never take a step towards smashing the wage system or lessening the control of industry by the trusts.

Plays Old Game.

Wilson's re-election will force the resignation of some of the old-time, old-line Democratic plutocrats, and in their places will come new men, less reactionary. Wilson's appointments have played to the radicals, and there is every indication that he will seek to weaken the radicals and strengthen the Democratic party by continuing this easy game. It is an old, old game, with great profit for those that play it.

But labor, thru the coming four years, must not be led astray or amazed at Wilson's apparent desire to be a Labor President.

1. Labor must realize that the cost of living in the United States is higher today than it was when Wilson undertook to revise the tariff three years ago, in order, so he said, to reduce the cost of living.

Exploitation Unchecked.

2. Labor must realize that the trusts have been allowed to exploit labor and the consumer unchecked, and that the next step is to encourage the trusts to

trustify and grow great so that America may compete with foreign nations.

3. Labor must realize that, for better or for worse, there is growing up in the United States a military system which is imposing an annual burden of hundreds of millions of dollars upon the backs of the working-class—a system at present profitable only to the employing class. To Woodrow Wilson more than to any other man belongs the credit for this achievement.

4. Labor must also realize that not a single revolutionary piece of labor legislation has been enacted during the four years of Wilson. This cannot be too often repeated, for the Democratic President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor has persistently thru the labor press and elsewhere sought to convey an opposite idea.

5. Labor must realize that Mr. Wilson proposes no scheme to give labor a just share of the wealth produced by it, and that he proposes no scheme to socialize the big industries or reduce the staggeringly topheavy mortgages upon the common people of Capital.

Must Toil Hard.

6. Labor must realize, lastly, that the astutest politician in generations is now in charge of this government and that his game is to disturb business as little as possible, while enticing into his fold as many of the Socialists and near-Socialists as he can. Whereas the election of Hughes would have meant an almost automatic growth of Socialism as a political party, the election of Wilson means that growth can be gained only by the hardest kind of drudging toil.

A new day has dawned—another day and another chapter in labor's slow struggle upward against tremendous, discouraging odds and betraying circumstances.

Unofficial returns give Dr. James I. Reid, Socialist, a plurality of 27 for member of the state legislature from the Ninth district of Providence, Rhode Island. Unofficial returns from the entire state give Benson 2,433. The official count has heretofore always increased the early returns of the Socialist vote. Debs' vote, 1912, 2,049.

How Far Can Wilson Go?

By JOSEPH E. COHEN.

Woodrow Wilson was re-elected President by the support of the South and West. It was a partnership of the most reactionary and most progressive old party elements. What will they expect of him?

Of course the South would like to be left alone. The stir of industry has quickened the feeling of the people only in the cities; strangely enough Louisiana elected a protectionist congressman. Otherwise the Mason Dixon line is the line between what was and what is yet to be down South.

There is no mistaking the radical sentiment of the West. Populism is not rooted out; the big farmers, fattened upon top prices for wheat and beef, feel the same mistrust of Wall Street that is felt by the mortgagee small holder. And neither is seriously opposed to government ownership of railroads, the machinery and fertilizer industries.

The West is also the experiment station for testing out political reforms, and their results would more readily be adopted in the East but for the congestion of population and political power.

West Is The Spur.

Mr. Wilson owes no more to the South than he did four years ago. He has not been permitted to stand still during his first term; he will have to go ahead to some extent the next four years. To spurn the new allegiance of the West would destroy the Democratic party. It would make the Socialist party the only refuge for forward looking voters in the next elections.

It seems quite reasonable to predict that woman suffrage will be proposed by the President possibly at the coming session of Congress. In any case, it is sure to filter thru in the next four years. If Wilson is going ahead, he will steal this march on the Republican party.

That is to say, it behooves the Socialist party to put the issue of enfranchising women in the forefront of its agitation. This is the time for the Socialist party to strike out and gain whatever handicap it can in winning the sympathy of the women of the nation.

Furthermore, Mr. Wilson has some debts to pay, and he may discharge his obligations with heavy interest. He has won the enmity of Wall Street. Goodness knows what more they expected of him than the passage of the Federal Reserve Act and his refusal to take action against the trusts—his being the first administration to refrain from trying to hamper the trusts by court action.

To be sure, when the election of Mr. Hughes was announced, there appeared two incidents which show the way the plutocrats of the country have been feeling. The day after election, and on the strength of Mr. Wilson's being repudiated by the nation, the Union Pacific Railroad began proceedings to have the Eight Hour Law declared unconstitutional. And the election of Mr. Hughes was hailed in London as a victory for the allies—which it would have been.

This may cause some tall thinking among the Germans who cut Mr. Wilson's it may give him new strength in the next Congressional contest.

Mr. Wilson may pay his debts to Wall Street, likewise to the corporation controlled bosses in the Democratic party who knifed him in New York, New Jersey, Illinois and elsewhere. If the President does this, if he goes ahead, he can accomplish something.

Sees End Of G. O. P.

Should Mr. Wilson make good, should some genuine reform be achieved toward the well-being of the masses, then the Democratic party might weather the industrial storm that is sure to convulse the nation with others when the war is over. And the President's party might swing the voters behind it four years hence and destroy the Republican party altogether.

Of the Democratic party may return to the camp of Wall Street, from which it has not strayed very far, and try to serve man and mammon. In which endeavor it would be as unsuccessful as the Republican party.

Aside from pressing economic conditions, the important force which will direct the radicalism of the old parties is the strength of the Socialist party. The amount of working class sentiment in this nation will decide how much progress the government will make.

The Socialist party should enter upon its work right now as the it were sure of carrying the election when next the canvass closes. Not only is the party an enduring influence for progress; the point has been reached, for the first time in old party history, when the President badly states that the class struggle represents the most important split in the nation.

It is up to the Socialist party to arouse the workers as never before to a sense of solidarity, especially to seize the opportunity of the present flush times to better their lot, to win back a larger measure of the wealth which they create and which is taken from them, and to secure the political power which will put an end to the taking of unearned profits by the plutocracy.

Mr. Wilson will go just as far as the Socialist movement compels him to go. And when he can go no further, the Socialist party will take up the work and go ahead with it.

The Socialist party must lead the way!

The Fusion Liberal-Conservative party will hang on to the State government of West Australia for a while longer. Ex-Premier Scaddan, Laborite, was defeated in a special election in Perth by a small majority in a record vote polled. The old parties were solidly combined and enough Laborites were in European war "fighting for King and country" to ensure Scaddan's defeat. On two other special elections the Laborites and Fusionists split even, each holding their seats.

Anyhow, the half-done Socialists "got something now" and they have got four years to get out of it.

A vote won in time means nine, for each new recruit enlisted has a long time to do some recruiting on his own hook.

Socialism, like Liberty or Truth, is something that you cannot have a part of; you can only gain or lose the whole, you cannot gain or lose a part.

Francis Willard said: "Would that I were young again, Socialism should have my life." Women who would be leaders, serve your country so you will have no similar regret.

Do your 1920 campaigning early. It is easier to make converts to Socialism now than in the heat of pre-election excitement. Voters now have time to ponder the truths you preach.

We are sorry Mr. Hughes will not have a chance to try his hand at cutting the high cost of living. Not that he would lower prices a single cent, but it would give us meritment to see him pretend to try.

You comrades who voted the ticket for the first time, get in line with the rest of the workers for Socialism by joining the party. It gives one a lot of encouragement to feel that he is really a part of the big push.

In Montreal, Canada, an effort was made to amend the constitution of the Labor party to permit the seating of delegates from the Socialist local and other progressive organizations, but the proposition was defeated.

Ever notice how few serious magazine articles you can find which do not mention Socialism in some connection. It all goes to show that thinking people know what is going on and are taking notice of the movement.

Among many so-called social workers it is contended that there are two causes of poverty—lack of brains and love for beer. Some day some sociologist will make the astounding discovery that the chief cause of poverty is low wages.

While the republican and democratic partisans were tearing their hair in the two days of uncertainty following election the stock market showed scarcely a flurry. That shows how much difference there was in the two old parties.

An English view of it: "We must in the future recognize the U. S. as a serious competitor on the sea."—Archibald Hurd in the Fortnightly Review. And remember that the present war was caused by Germany's ambitions to be recognized as England's maritime rival.

The only good thing which we can see as a result of the long expensive campaign between the old parties is that Charles E. Hughes is off the Supreme Court bench. It will not make much difference to him, for now he will be a corporation lawyer instead of a corporation judge.

After all experience seems to be the only teacher. She has just opened another four year course. The major subject is "Socialism; How it will not be achieved thru the Democratic party." Several million workers who voted for Wilson are enrolled. Will enough graduate into the Socialist ranks in 1920 to make a repetition of the course unnecessary?

Whenever any piece of "Humanitarian" legislation is offered the workers by the old parties it is always backed up by the argument that greater efficiency on the part of labor will more than compensate the employer for his sacrifice. Whether this is true or whether it is employed as an excuse, it shows whom our legislators most want to please.

The position of the present day Church of England, which is Catholicism with King George for its Pope, is made clear from this quotation from a recent article by Henry Craik. "But if it (a liberal theology) presumes to impose the Shibboleths of political Radicalism and to identify the tenets of internationalism Socialism with the faith of the church, it MUST BE TAUGHT ITS PLACE AND DISCIPLINED INTO ORDER."

Election for part of the National Senate occurred in Sweden a few days ago. Control was not changed, the Conservatives maintaining their strength, the Liberals lost two and the Socialists own two seats. A notable incident was the defeat of Prof. Steffens for re-election. He was a Socialist and became a warmonger, was kicked out of the Socialist party, and is now out of Parliament and among the has-beens.

Despite the coercive methods practiced against the Socialists in South Africa, the movement is going forward. In the school elections recently held in Johannesburg, the Socialists polled one-fifth of the total vote. According to the International, the League of South Africa, the election showed a strong growth of Socialist sentiment and a gain in Socialist organization. The labor vote was scattered and the Socialists alone had a clean slate.

IS HE CRAZY?

The owner of a large plantation in Mississippi, where the fine figs grow, is giving away a few acres of fruit tracts. The only condition is that figs be planted. The owner wants enough figs raised to supply a co-operative canning, factory. You can secure five acres and an interest in the canning factory by writing the Eubank Farms Company, 1169 Keystone, Pittsburgh, Pa. They will plant and care for your trees for \$6 a month. Your profit should be \$1,000 per year. Some think this man is crazy for giving away such valuable land, but there may be method in his madness.

Right On The Job

Not dismayed in the least over the defeat of Eugene V. Debs this year the Fifth Indiana Congressional District Socialists are already planning for the 1918 congressional campaign when it is hoped that Debs will again be the candidate. On advice of Debs it was decided not to go to the courts in a contest of the recent election.

"I do not think anything could be gained," he said, "by petitioning for a recount. I have had considerable experience with capitalistic courts. All the chances would be against us. We would enter a hostile court. In case of the Republicans and Democrats it is different. They enter their own courts. It would be a vain and fruitless effort for us."

"We lost many votes thru use of the voting machines. There was evidently some fraud and many voted other tickets thinking they had voted the Socialist ticket."

Need Real Union Men. "Large numbers of Terre Haute union men voted against us. We need real union men. On election day they vote for what they strike against all the rest of the year. In Terre Haute we drew largely from the middle class, the very class from whom we could hardly expect support. The middle class voted for us thru sympathy for the laboring class. And the laboring class, the very ones who should have voted for us, voted against us."

"There is not a corporation more deadly or hostile to the laboring class in the state than the traction company. Yet this corporations' attorney was elected to congress by the laboring men. This was what might be called the sublimity of stupidity."

Flood Of Money Turned Loose. Debs said he felt remarkably well over the outcome. "The day after election," he said, "I coined a new phrase, Blessed are they who expect nothing, for they shall not be disappointed."

Debs said that a powerful influence worked in the district to prevent his election, and that a flood of money was turned loose.

Build Up Your League

By ROBERT WARK

National Organizer

Young People's Socialist Leagues.

Let's double our membership next year. We can do it. There are thousands of young men and women who are anxious to become Yipsels. In every city in the country there are hundreds of fellows and girls who are looking for a nice jolly bunch to associate with.

Go out and get them. Don't go out after them in a haphazard fashion. Don't leave it to the other fellow. Get your eye on some fellow or some girl that you really believe would be a valuable asset to a live league like yours. Make it your business to see that they attend some meeting of the league. Don't pick out a dull meeting for them to attend but see to it that you have them there when there is something worth while doing.

Don't imagine every fellow and girl is wrapped up in having a good time all their life. Deep down in the hearts of everyone of us is the desire to get out and do something. We all want to have a part in making this world a better place to live. Some of us see the opportunities that are presented and seize them. We don't have to be told what to do. Others are not so quick to see these things as we are. They have the same desire, the same hopes and fears but their vision is limited. It is for you and I and every other member of the Young People's Socialist League to show the other fellow how much he really can do if he is a member of our league.

Just think of the variety of things at your YPSL is doing. You have dances and Socials. There are hikes and debates. You have all kinds of real, healthy sport and wrapped around all of these body and mind building affairs and intertwined thru-thru-thru the entire league is the spirit of comradeship.

What a wonderful opportunity there is for real service to your fellow man. What a vast field there is for anyone who desires to do things that are really worth while. Here, in the YPSL, is the one place where you can do your little share and where the work you will do is worth much more than the work you could do in any other club or society.

Get on the job. Cast your eyes about you. Pick out your new member and train all of your efforts on him or her for the next year. Do this and when the election of 1917 is over and the Socialist Party has made the wonderful increase that it is bound to make you can truthfully say that you took part in doing real work for the advancement of the human race.

WARNING FROM INDIANA.

I find that Bouck White is trying to get dates in Indiana thru the Socialist Party locals. I have no doubt that he is going to try the same thing in all parts of the country. I think the National Organization or The American Socialist should tell the comrades just who this man is. I understand he voted for Wilson in the last election and to the best of my knowledge is not a party member. It seems to me that it is about time to cut out these freaks. A short time ago a local of the party in Indiana secured him for a meeting and they were sure sick of it afterward. Why not make it plain in the paper just who this man is.

Yours for the cause,
Wm. H. Henry,
State Secretary, Indiana.

European papers arriving state that on the day that Dr. Adler shot Premier Stuerck the latter had issued an order prohibiting all mass meetings that had been arranged for the purpose of demanding that the Austrian Parliament, which has not met in three years, be assembled to deal with many internal problems that have arisen. Austria has become more of an absolutism in the matter of preventing legislation in the interests of the people than is Russia. More trouble is looked for.

American Labor Year Book

1916

THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF ITS KIND PUBLISHED IN AMERICA.

To Be Published Annually

PREPARED BY
THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR RESEARCH OF THE RAND SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE.

A comprehensive compilation of facts of the Socialist and Labor Movement in America

The following are contributors,—

Prof. Scott Nearing, Dr. I. M. Rubinow, William English Walling, Florence Kelley, Dr. Harry W. Laidler, Morris Hillquit, John R. Lawson, James H. Maurer, Dr. Frederick C. Howe, Carl D. Thompson and others.

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LITERATURE DEPARTMENT

SOCIALIST PARTY

803 West Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

TO THE DAY OF VICTORY.

Terre Haute, Ind., Nov. 16, 1916.

My dear Comrade Engdahl:—

Let me take this occasion to thank you and The American Socialist in a personal way for your unfailing kindness and your steadfast support thru the entire campaign. This is but a poor return, I know, and yet I am sure you will understand that I am deeply sensible of all you did for us in our fight in this district.

I am several weeks behind with my work and doing my best to dig out from under the accumulation. But I have no complaint. We did our best and we will continue along that line to the day of victory.

Yours always,
E. V. Debs.

ROLL OF HONOR

Bronx, N. Y., starts the 1920 campaign by sending in 16 subs for 40 weeks. The list comes from Comrade Fannie Person.

Comrade L. B. Myers, secretary of the Alpha, Ohio, local, sends in a club of four and says: "You will soon hear from us again as we have a few more to renew this sub."

"Have succeeded in forming a club of eight members who are anxious to read the good things contained in our valuable paper," writes Comrade Charles E. Weaver, of Bristol, Rhode Island, as he sends in a list of eight.

"Look out for more to follow soon; yours in the fight until we win," says Comrade William E. Fincham, of Martinsville, Ind., as he sends in a list of eight.

Comrade C. F. Schneider, of St. Louis, Mo., renews his own sub and sends in a list of three more.

Comrade P. R. Fourteenth, of Princeton, Ind., sends in a list of 15 subs for 40 weeks. Some of these are renewals. He isn't going to allow any to quit reading the paper.

Comrade J. H. Silken, of Edwardsville, Ill., comes in with a list of nine subs.

Another list of nine comes from Comrade Charles L. Myer, of Auburn, Ind.

"Quite a few of the old republicans voted for Allan L. Benson for president in our district," writes Comrade Jake O. Salo, of Rochester, Wis., as he renews his sub. "They are all coming to their senses, slow but sure."

"This is my first club that I have sent in, but I will be on the job hereafter," writes Comrade Carl O. Adams, of Rock Island, Ill., as he sends in a list of eight.

"This comes from Comrade B. W. Gendey, of East Lynn, Mass.: "Please write me about your bundle order offers. The people in the West are anxious to get their copies of The American Socialist. They like it. It has the punch to it. It hits capitalism straight from the shoulder. This fight has no middle ground. It is Socialism or capitalism. It is only the straight Socialist Party ballot that counts."

Here are our bundle rates:
BUNDLE RATES—Bundle Rates One Year to one Address: 4 copies, \$1; 8 copies, \$2; 10 copies, \$2.50; 25 copies, \$6.25; 50 copies, \$12.50; 100 copies, \$25.00. Bundle Rates of Any Issue: 1,000, \$5; 500, \$2.50; 200, \$1.00; 100, 50 cents.

Lake county, Minnesota, elected E. G. Strand, Socialist, member of the state assembly. Strand received 675 votes to 618 for his nonpartisan opponent, Mattson, Socialist, was elected county commissioner, First district, by a plurality of 2 votes.

Simon Legree, according to Henry L. Meucken, was the original efficiency expert.

The 1920 Campaign

SOCIALISM WON big victories in the 1916 campaign.

It can sweep into power in 1920 if it has men and women in the party, qualified for all offices, and prepared to make the big campaign.

A training in Law is the best successful candidates are lawyers.

Our combination, three-year university correspondence Law Course—a course in Law, Public Speaking and Plain English—will fit you to qualify for any office.

AMERICAN SOCIALIST

Official Organ of the Socialist Party of the United States.

J. L. ENGDALHEditor
Entered as second-class matter, July 21, 1914, at the post-office at Chicago, Ill., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Published every Saturday by the Socialist Party National Office, 803 West Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

BUNDLE RATES—Bundle Rates One Year to one Address: 4 copies, \$1; 8 copies, \$2; 10 copies, \$2.50; 25 copies, \$6.25; 50 copies, \$12.50; 100 copies, \$25.00. Bundle Rates of Any Issue: 1,000, \$5; 500, \$2.50; 200, \$1.00; 100, 50 cents.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1916.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

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National Executive Secretary:
ADOLPH GERMER, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

Address all communications to The Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago. Address all mail to departments and not to individuals. Make remittances payable to the Socialist Party.

The election of Mayor George Lunn, of Schenectady, N. Y., as a Democratic Congressman has assured the transfer of the city government back to the Socialist party when Lunn resigns as Mayor to become a Congressman in the Congress that opens March 4, 1917. Lunn may resign before that time, and then Charles P. Steinmetz, president of the Board of Aldermen, will step in as Mayor for the unexpired term to December 31, 1917. Steinmetz is a member of the Socialist party local of Schenectady. He is consulting engineer of the General Electric Company and one of the highest paid scientists in the world.

THINK OF IT!

A real Socialist Co-operative to make your Clothes.

Suits and Overcoats from \$15.00 to \$45.00

Mention price you wish to pay, and we will send you samples accordingly, also style book and measurement blank.

Our garments are strictly tailor-made and OF COURSE carry the Union Label.

Let us hear from you.

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Send for our new, illustrated book, "Law and the People."

It will mean the opportunity of your life to you. A Law training at cost, laid on easy terms, in a Labor College, backed by men and women like Debs, Walsh, Kirkpatrick, O'Hare, Russell, Work, England, Steinmetz, LeSueur, Warren. Be the man of power in your community.

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Send me your free, illustrated book, "Law and the People," and particulars of your correspondence, university Course in Law. Name.....
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Scholarship Contest News!

Word Just Received By The Contest Manager From

BERTHA H. MAILEY,

Executive Secretary Of The Rand School Of

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Indicates that there may be a possibility of lending financial aid to one or more of the winners of the Scholarships, while studying at the school. There is an effort being made to obtain contributions to the School's Scholarship Fund, the proceeds of which may be applied to assist meritorious students.

Are you going to be one of the five winners of a Scholarship in this Great Educational Institution.

Then fill out the coupon at once and mail it TODAY.

Clip This Coupon

SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST DEPARTMENT,
THE AMERICAN SOCIALIST,
803 WEST MADISON STREET,
CHICAGO, ILL.

Dear Comrade: Please enter my name in the race for a Rand School of Social Science Scholarship. I am going in to win.

Name.....

Street Address.....

City..... County..... State.....

Age..... Sex..... Previous education.....

.....

.....

How To Earn A Scholarship

In all The American Socialist will award FIVE SCHOLARSHIPS. They are to be earned as follows:
By securing subscriptions for The American Socialist.
Each winning candidate for a scholarship must attain a minimum of 2,000 points.
Each 25c subscription will count as one point.
Each 50c subscription will count as two points.
A club of four 40 weeks subscribers at 25c will count as four points.
In other words, in sending in subscriptions or in buying sub cards the candidate for a scholarship will be credited with one point for every 25c sent in.
The standing of the candidates will be published weekly in The American Socialist.

Battling For Socialism

NOTE:—This story appeared on the first page of The New York Globe and gives an excellent insight into the great campaign waged by the Twentieth New York Congressional District which almost resulted in the election of Morris Hillquit. He was defeated by only 108 votes and a contest is now being planned. This is the kind of work that spelled progress for the Socialist party in many sections of the nation.

By GERALD B. BREITIGAM.
(In The New York Globe.)

It is night, and a chill wind blows along the gloomy, ill-lighted and depressing streets of the upper east side. The red and yellow and green lights in the drug store windows and the other pale patches of light from the straggling shops fall with a wintry gleam upon the sidewalk. Autumn is fleeing fast; winter presses hard. If ever there was a night for staying indoors by the radiator, with newspaper and pipe, here is one such. But what is discomfort to a Socialist? They are out to-night.

As I reach the street level, after descending the elevated stairs at Third Avenue and 106th Street amid a stream of belated homegoers from downtown, I am caught in an eddy of young men, old men, women, girls and children, swirling about on the fringe of a packed mass of people.

Those on the fringe seek vantage points. Those who are packed together have found them. In the middle, upon a truck, standing at the end, which has been let down, is a young woman leaning out to address the crowd.

She utters a name and her voice rings out with a terrible earnestness. "Morris Hillquit!"

The rest is lost in an answering shout that goes up from those upturned faces.

Seeking The Candidate.

It is Morris Hillquit, Socialist candidate for congress in this, the Twentieth Congressional District, whom I seek. So I press on toward Socialist headquarters, pass through these depressing streets, walk underneath the great stone dike that supports the New Haven tracks and runs down the middle of the district like a spine with little archways piercing it at street intersections, and reach Madison Avenue, which is more brightly lighted.

What sort of campaign is going on here? What are the details? I am to find out. Here is Morris Hillquit, author of text books on socialism, teacher in the Rand School, prominent labor attorney for years, standing for congress on the Socialist ticket in a normally Democratic district which elected a Republican last term only by a fluke and eighty votes.

Two other street meetings are reached, from each of which comes distinctly the name "Morris Hillquit." Then headquarters, 1538 Madison Avenue. A great banner floats above the street; sidewalk signs are scattered about. Up a narrow stairs one comes to the headquarters—a large, low-ceilinged room. Cutting it in two is a breast-high, wooden partition. There are tables, desks, and chairs scattered about.

Perhaps it is a meeting. But, no; there are no speakers. Young women are busy at desks and tables over rows and rows of card indexes. Men come and go. All is in a mobile, fluid state. There is an atmosphere of bustle and confusion, which I am presently to learn, however, is ordered and precise.

A Magic Voice.

And now Morris Hillquit is found—almost a disappointment to one who has never seen him before. Absurdly insignificant, he seems, to be a champion of the people, with his slender figure, small stature, and slight suggestion of a stoop. He speaks; the bad impression vanishes. For his voice is jolly, there is more than the suggestion of a perpetual smile about the thin and lined face and behind the close-clipped black mustache, and the glance is keen and sure and wise. "First let me tell you some interesting points," he says. "Then we will go to meetings."

To begin with, he declares, there are the sacrifices of the people. The unions and the individual working men of the district send in contributions, which form the only funds of the campaign. But a bigger sacrifice is that of time made by the ardent old and new Socialists.

One learns, for instance, that 100 young men, workers of various sorts, for a month have been bolting their evening meal in order to appear at headquarters every night sharp at 6.30 o'clock. Then, armed with cards of voters in the district, furnished them by the campaign manager—a young lawyer, graduate of Yale—and upon which are written a complete history of the voter to be seen, his political and union affiliations, they go forth canvassing. For this they get nothing; it is all volunteer work. And many more volunteered than were chosen; only those of long Socialist standing who can speak intelligently upon the subject and meet arguments with reason are selected. Every one of the 14,000 registered voters has been canvassed.

Altho without a vote, the women have not held back. Young girls and women, trades unionists and school teachers and clerks, volunteer their services, and do the card indexing.

Women Workers, Too.

And one learns, too, that night after night women and men—workers from the ranks of those they address—go out and speak on the street from the tail of a truck, asking no pay, volunteering for the task.

Here and there Hillquit points in the enclosure behind the rail, indicating some of the speakers, preparing to go forth for the night's battle for votes. Here are two Italian officials of garment workers' unions; there a German pastor; there an editorial writer of a Socialist newspaper; there an artist, tall and thin, with a handsome face; there a woman school teacher, with close-cropped gray curls showing under a little velvet cap.

Numbers of races and tongues are represented in the district, for it is a true melting pot. Therefore, there must be a list of speakers able to employ various languages.

"There are many others," Hillquit explains. "The street car men have developed some orators. But, most of all, we have found the finest Italian orator in the country—a Socialist journalist. Ah, how that man makes them laugh and cry. Most of the time we speak on the streets from trucks. Hill quit is high, and all our funds are people's contributions."

Down the stairs and into a waiting automobile, while a big crowd of men and boys press around so that a passage must be forced. Then the car is

Henry Dubb Has An Awful Time With His Incentive



By RYAN WALKER

Our Next War

The Great War, without question, is a contest for commercial supremacy. We have the authority of no less a business man's son than C. W. Barron of the Wall Street News, and other financial publications for this statement.

The men in the warring countries who do the fighting, however, are not told this. Only a few brave patriots, like H. G. Wells in England and Liebknecht in Germany, dared tell the truth to their countrymen. If the Germans knew that the charge that the allies had formed a plot to crush their nation was all humbug, and if the British could be brought to know that England's altruism toward outraged Belgium was a pretence, Tommy Atkins would have a cheer on Her- tmann and they would both beat it for home. There is not much glamor in war, at best, and when all there is to fight for is the commercial advantage of the men higher up—we don't know many who would fight at all if they knew.

What about the next great war—the one that America is going to take part in? There will surely be one, for why are we going in for all this preparedness? We do not know whom it will be with but we know what it will be fought for—for property rights and the freedom of business concerned in foreign trade. Moreover we know that we will be told that what we are fighting for is something sacred. Most likely our next war will be with some European coalition over the control of foreign trade. When the present war is over, American business men will be determined to hold, even at the expense of a bloody war (the not a bloody one for them), the foreign trade which the present conflict has allowed them to seize. Everybody knows not many of us will be persuaded to follow the cry if we are called out with the flag "Protect our business for the plundering pirates." What will be the slogan trumped up for the occasion? Probably the protection of American lives at sea. Already some of the jingoes have been busy demanding that we avenge the Lusitania victims, and the chances are that if the war continues very long another British ship with an American aboard will opportunely collide with a torpedo—and there will be the grand and glorious issue. We once went to war with England, hardly a century ago, over the ostensible cause of the impressment of American sailors at sea, and as far as we know no one of them was even drowned.

It may be that our next war will be with Mexico. In that case it will be the issue of the conservation of mining investments of American capitalists over the border. We do not know anyone, tho, who wants to fight for the Guggenheims or William Randolph Hearst, so some other popular clamor must be forthcoming here. They have already tried the "American lives" gag, but that did not work very well because the incitement of Villa to raid Columbus was too crudely managed. At Vera Cruz a couple of years ago there was a near war over the subject of National Honor. Ah National Honor! That sounds fine. Many men have fought nobly and died happily for that elusive thing. What is national honor anyhow? Bryan says the American conception of national honor "is a sense of respectability among the militaristic nations." But anyhow national honor always gets a good hand in the theatres so it ought to make a good slogan for the forcible exploitation of Mexico. Once before we used national honor as a cloak to hide our robbery from Mexico of a nice chunk of territory from which we later carved several choice states. National Honor! What crimes have been committed in thy name! May there never be another!

Yes, the get-something-how Socialists got it all right. For good measure they will keep on "getting it" for four years.

We Don't Care

By WILLIAM F. KRUSE.

WE DON'T CARE if you have voted the Republican ticket—that is, if you happen to own big copper mines and oil wells and banks and such. In short, if you are a member of that little clique which the man on the street calls "Big Business" it is only right that you should vote the Republican ticket, you own that ticket, it stands for your wealth and your power to continue robbing the people.

WE DON'T CARE if you voted the Democratic ticket—that is if you own a couple of munition factories and armament plants, or if you are a child labor sweater who owns Southern cotton mills. The Democratic Party is your party then—it has been very good to you and you should return the compliment. It has spent more money for the murder machinery you make your profits from than any other administration in the history of the country. The least that you can do is to vote for the Democratic Party and to contribute to its campaign funds.

BUT WE DO CARE if you are one of that great army of fool working men, who are robbed of the products of their labor in the mills, mines, and factories, and who still keep on supporting the tickets of their masters and robbers. We do care then and it is up to you to care. Every workingman who votes an old-party ticket votes the bread out of the mouth of his family. Every worker who voted either the Democratic or Republican tickets last election day voted to decorate the inside of his carcass with bullets on which the fellow who owns those parties has already made a patriotic profit.

I do not object to a man making a fool of himself. I am even willing that he may brag of it, as did the crowds of workmen on Nov. 7th. But it makes a difference when their votes not only rob their families of life but rob mine also. And it makes a difference when their vote not only threatens their skins with proffered bullets but threatens mine also. There is nothing philanthropic about most socialist workmen. They merely know what they are up against and are trying to improve their lot. But they can't do it alone so they organize a party. And they vote for that party. And they use those votes as a club to win better conditions. A big vote is a bigger club than a small vote. It will get us more. If our vote gets big enough we can put the profits last election day voted to guard the ballots on Election Day. The auditors asked numerous questions and discussion went back and forth.

Even In The Transom. It was 10 o'clock now and Madison Hall was packed so tightly it seemed impossible to force an entrance. Men stood in the windows and one had stuffed himself across the transom. Nevertheless, way was made for Hillquit and the Socialist editorial writer who were to be the speakers of the evening. As they reached the platform finally the woman with the close-cropped silver curls finished an impassioned speech amid loud applause and dropped back panting. "Glad you came," she whispered, relievedly.

The editorialist, a big man, with a magnificent voice and a trick of brutal oratory, had them laughing in a trice. It seems like a vision out of fantasy now—the lights, the ringing voice, the intense faces, the close atmosphere, the smell of cooking coming in the open windows at the rear from the restaurant below, the striding up and down, the thunderous applause.

And then—Hillquit arose—and the voice of gold reason spoke. They listened in rapt attention while he fed them arguments, not personalities. Now and then a wild, young fanatic in the audience would sing out, "Three cheers for Morris Hillquit," and the crowd would cheer, and Hillquit would continue.

They hung enthralled upon the words of this little Russian Jew, who came from Riga at seventeen and now at forty-five is their champion labor attorney, as if their hopes of entering heaven depended upon him alone—laborers, garment makers, mechanics, poor men, and working men all.

And they say it is like that every night. "Wilson Plans Tariff to Protect Trade after War."—Headline in a leading Chicago paper three days after election. Wilson was elected by a farmer vote. Concerning the tariff Wilson once said, "The farmer does not produce any of the things which get any material benefit from the tariff, and he consumes all the things which are taxed under the tariff system." Will you do it again, Mr. Farmer?

No one can know too much about Socialism. Begin now to broaden your knowledge, strengthen your faith and increase your talking power for future campaigns by studying some of the best books on Socialism. Get a list from the National Office, if you don't know what books are best. And begin anew to "spread the gospel." What one reads on Socialism now will have a long time to soak in.

ENORMOUS INCREASE OF FOOD PRICES IN FOUR YEARS.

How high the cost of living has soared since 1912 may be seen by the table here. The prices quoted are wholesale. Retail prices—those the housewife pays—are higher.

Of all the foods listed, the only one that has been kept at one price, since a slight decline in 1913, is rice.

Commodities	Nov. 1912	Nov. 1913	Nov. 1914	Nov. 1915	Nov. 1916
Flour, per bbl.	\$4.65	\$4.15	\$5.10	\$5.20	\$9.50
Milk, per qt.	.05	.05	.06	.06	.08
Eggs, per doz. (best)	.40	.38	.34	.35	.50
Hams, smoked, per lb.	.14	.16	.16 1/2	.17	.22
Butter, creamery, per lb.	.32	.32	.33 1/2	.29	.40
Sugar, Rio, per lb.	.15	.11	.06	.07	.09
Coffee, granulated, per lb.	.05	.04	.05 1/2	.05	.08
Rice, per lb.	.05	.06 1/2	.06	.06	.06
Beans, per 100 lbs.	.495	5.35	6.00	8.20	13.00
Potatoes, per bu. (60 lbs.)	.50	.70	.50	.83	1.80

Have You Read ?

The Ragged Trousered Philanthropist

by Robert Tressall.

A page out of the life of Mr. Average Worker—that is what this story is. Nothing more, nothing less. It is reported to have been written by a poorly educated worker who never realized that in his work he showed any spark of literary ability. A diamond in the rough—and the more beautiful for it.

Unlike many other "revolutionary" novels, this does not lay its scenes among either slum-dwellers or nihilists. It tells the story of the so-called skilled worker, in this case the building tradesman, the painter. But it would fit equally well on any kindred trade. It does not deal in bombastic denunciation against the system, it shows the even tenor of the workers' life and the things that he is up against.

The hero of the story is a young journeyman painter, an ardent Socialist, and an exceptionally capable man at his trade as most Socialist mechanics are found to be. He is married and dearly loves his two little ones. (His wife is in sympathy with the cause, yet takes a more conservative stand when the bread of the children is threatened. Along with these figures are those of the other workmen, of the shop owner, and of his slave-driving foreman who has "worked himself up" by selling his last spark of manhood. The fakes and shams of respectable business practice are shown up, and the cringing cowardice of so many of the workers too finds its eloquent portrayal. Talking wildly about strikes and sabotage when the boss is away, and cringing when the boss is mad when the report goes round that he is coming—this is the picture presented. The hero, Jimmy Higgins that he is, tries to explain his message around the dinner buckets, his reading and study

have lifted him far above his hearers, but they merely mock him. Yet he and those dear to him stay true to the end—and that end is something quite different from those of the good body story books.

The worker as he is, neither a degraded version of him nor an idealized one—written by one who worked as he wrote—and lived through the things that his pen so vividly portrayed, this is the story of the Ragged Trousered Philanthropist. It is well worth anybody's time to read it—once begun it is so entrancing in its simplicity that it is not easily laid down until finished.

NOTE:—This series of descriptions of worth while books is printed in this paper for the purpose of referring our comrades, and particularly those of the Young People's Socialist League, who have their whole educational problem still before them, to some guide posts on worth while socialist literature. Different kinds of books will be reviewed here—some new, some fiction and others in a more serious vein. The attention of all our comrades is called to the fact that the American movement is sadly given to the habit of neglecting its reading. This should be corrected, and if these little reviews will help any along that road, they are worth while. This book can be obtained from the National Office, Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago. Price \$1.40. W. F. K.

As this is being written, the national election is still in doubt. These are times of great suspense—for several thousand federal office seekers.

The Socialists began the day after election to work for a 1920 victory. The old parties must wait three years or so to think up something for people to get excited about.

Latest returns say the Democrats will outnumber the Republicans in Congress by five. That makes the Socialist delegation seem more important than ever.

If we could only ignore the pathos of an ignorant but well-meaning electorate there would be lots of amusement in seeing what fools some people make of themselves over election returns.

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